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URBAN DISTRICT  
OF AMBLE

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THE

Annual Reports

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND

Sanitary Inspector

FOR THE YEAR 1937.



THE ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR THE  
URBAN DISTRICT OF AMBLE  
FOR THE YEAR 1937.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Amble Urban District Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for 1937 for your consideration.

You will notice that there is a slight increase in both the Birth Rate and the Death Rate as compared with 1936.

There has been a larger number of new houses built during the year—49, as against 27 the previous year—the greater number, 36, having been built by your Council for slum clearance.

On the whole it is a report which shows that the health and sanitary condition of Amble compares very favourably with towns of a similar size with an industrial population.

The attack rate of Infectious Disease was again very low.

#### NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Amble is a seaport town built in the angle between the estuary of the River Coquet and the North Sea. It is flat and low lying and is therefore greatly exposed, especially to north-easterly winds.

The town is mostly built of stone from local quarries; the recent houses of brick.

The whole trade of the town is in coal, which is shipped at the harbour. Most of the men are employed at the adjacent collieries of Broomhill and Hauxley. These collieries have worked steadily throughout the year and have only been stopped on a few days owing to bad weather preventing shipping from entering and leaving the port.

There are a few fishermen.



## 1.—GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area : 1,220 acres of land and inland water.

Registrar-General's estimate of resident population in 1937 : 4,321.

Number of inhabited houses (1937) : 1,310.

Rateable Value (1937) : £18,934.

Sum represented by a penny rate (1937) : £72.

## 2.—EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR 1937.

		Total. Males. Females.					
Live Births	{	Legitimate	76	33	43	}	Birth Rate : 18.28.
		Illegitimate	3	2	1		
		—					
			79				
Still Births	{	Legitimate	5	2	3	}	Rate per 1,000 total births : 59.52.
		Illegitimate	—	—	—		
		—					
			5				
Deaths	...	...	55	25	30	Death Rate : 12.72.	
Number of women dying in or in consequence of child-birth ... .. 1							
Death rate of Infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 live births :							
All Infants ... ..							25.31
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births							25.31
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ... ..							Nil.
Deaths from Measles (all ages) ... ..							Nil.
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ... ..							Nil.
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ... ..							Nil.

### BIRTH RATE.

The Birth Date again shows a slight increase over that of the previous year. It is 18.28 per 1,000.

Still-births increased by one to five for 1937.

There were three illegitimate births as compared with none for 1936.

The live births and still-births are tabulated above.

## MORTALITY.

The number of deaths in the Urban District after allowing for transferable deaths was 55.

The Death Rate for the year was 12.72 per 1,000 inhabitants, as compared with 12.49 for the previous year.

They occurred throughout the year as follows:—

January	...	3	May	...	...	10	September	...	4	
February	...	5	June	...	...	3	October	...	7	
March	...	...	4	July	...	...	5	November	...	3
April	...	...	4	August	...	4	December	...	3	

The ages at death were as follows:—

Under 1 year	...	...	2
1 and under 2 years	...	—	—
2 „ „ 5 „	...	—	—
5 „ „ 15 „	...	1	1
15 „ „ 25 „	...	2	2
25 „ „ 45 „	...	4	4
45 „ „ 65 „	...	9	9
65 and upwards	...	...	37

## INFANT MORTALITY (Under 1 year).

There were two deaths of infants with a death rate of 25.31 per 1,000 live births.

The ages at, and causes of death are as under:—

12 Hours, Premature Birth.

12 Hours, Congenital Debility.

Still-births, viz., full term babies which are not born alive were first registered in 1928. There were five in 1937, one more than in the previous year, 2 males and 3 females. This gives a rate of 59.52 per 1,000 total births.

## INFANTILE DEATH-RATES.

The following are the rates for Amble during the previous ten years:—1927, 89.74; 1928, 24.09; 1929, 142.8; 1930, 92.1; 1931, 70.5; 1932, 15.5; 1933, nil; 1934, 102.9; 1935, 69.4; 1936, 80.

In the following tables will be found the Birth and Death Rates, the ages at which death occurred, and the principal causes of death during the last five years :

Year.	Estimated Population.	Births.	Birth-rate per 1,000	Deaths.	Death-rate per 1,000
1933	4238	77	18.16	63	14.86
1934	4364	68	15.58	60	13.74
1935	4377	72	16.44	69	15.76
1936	4323	75	17.34	54	12.49
1937	4321	79	18.28	55	12.72

### THE AGES AT WHICH DEATH OCCURRED.

	Under 1 Year	1 and under 2 years	2 and under 5 years	5 and under 15 years	15 and under 25 years	25 and under 45 years	45 and under 65 years	65 and upwards	Total
1933	—	—	1	1	4	7	15	35	63
1934	7	—	1	1	2	7	11	31	60
1935	5	2	—	2	4	11	12	33	69
1936	6	—	1	—	—	5	12	30	54
1937	2	—	—	1	2	4	9	37	55

### PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH.

	*Heart Disease	Tuberculosis	Cancer	Pneumonia (all forms)	Apoplexy	Bronchitis
1933	15	3	6	1	4	2
1934	15	4	3	2	3	3
1935	19	5	6	3	6	—
1936	14	4	7	4	2	1
1937	11	3	6	6	5	2

\* Including Diseases of the Blood Vessels.

### 3.—NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

Diseases.	Total cases notified.	Treated at Home.	Admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever .....	6	1	5	—
Diphtheria .....	1	1	—	—
Tuberculosis .....	2	—	2	3
Erysipelas .....	—	—	—	—

The cases of notifiable infectious disease are shown above in tabular form.

One case of diphtheria occurred in February. It was of a mild type.

The 6 cases of Scarlet Fever occurred as follows:—

1 case in April at the Lord Mayor's Camp.

4 cases in September at the Lord Mayor's Camp.

1 case in November in the town.

All the cases in the Lord Mayor's Camp were sent to Walkergate Fever Hospital, and the usual disinfection carried out. The disease did not become epidemic.

The parents of the case which occurred in Amble kept a small sweet shop. It was thought better in the interests of public health that the shop should be closed to the public until the child was free from infection and the house disinfected. This was done with the full approval of the parents.

#### TUBERCULOSIS.

##### New Cases and Mortality During 1937.

Age Periods.	New Cases.		Deaths.	
	Respiratory.		Respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
5—15 ... ..	1	—	—	—
25—35 ... ..	—	1	1	1
55—65 ... ..	—	—	1	—

No person suffering from Tuberculosis was employed in the milk trade during the year.



## SMALLPOX.

No vaccinations were performed by the Medical Officer of Health under the Public Health (Smallpox Prevention) Regulations, 1917.

## PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925, SECTION 62.

No action was required to be taken under the above Section by the Council in 1937.

## OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

There were no notifications of cases of this disease in Amble during 1937.

### 4.—CAUSES OF SICKNESS.

No cases of sickness were traced to the water or milk supply of the town. A small outbreak of mild food-poisoning was traced to a butcher's shop in the district. The cause was some potted meat. All the meat was destroyed and also any meat in the same outhouse. The whole of the outdoor premises was limewashed and woodwork white painted. A bacteriological examination was made of the faeces of every one connected with the business and an employee aged 48 was found to be a carrier of *B. Aertrycke*. He was isolated on the 15th September and treated with intestinal antiseptics. Further stools were examined and the last three being negative he was allowed to resume work on the 30th October.

No further trouble ensued.

### 5.—SUMMARY (FOR REFERENCE) OF NURSING ARRANGEMENTS, HOSPITALS, AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS AVAILABLE FOR THE DISTRICT. PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.

(a) GENERAL.—There is a Nursing Association in Amble affiliated to the Northumberland County Nursing Association. This local Association derives its funds from voluntary subscriptions. The Nurse principally does surgical work, e.g., dressings, etc., and attends patients who require skilled atten-



tion, e.g., for prevention of bed sores. She also does a number of midwifery cases on her own, sending for medical assistance when required.

(b) FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—There are no nursing arrangements for cases of measles, scarlet fever, etc. The patient is nursed at his or her home by relatives under the direction of the doctor.

MIDWIVES.—There are no Midwives practising in the district, with the exception of the District Nurse.

CLINICS, ETC.—There is a clinic for infants under the auspices of the County Health Authority. The School Doctor sends defective children for treatment to their family doctor.

There is no institutional provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants, or homeless children in the district.

## HOSPITAL ADMINISTRATION.

The Hospital Accommodation in Amble consists of one Isolation Hospital, situated on the Links. It is an iron building and has four beds. It was erected for the reception of Smallpox patients. It was not required in 1937. The Hospital was in good condition and was regularly inspected and aired.

No Hospital exists for other Infectious Diseases. There is no other Hospital in the district.

For Tuberculosis, Wooley Sanatorium is available through the County Council.

## AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

(a) FOR INFECTIOUS CASES.—There is no Ambulance for infectious cases, and none is at present required, as these cases are nursed at home.

(b) FOR NON-INFECTIOUS AND ACCIDENT CASES.—There are 2 Colliery Ambulances (Motor) stationed at Broomhill Colliery, about three miles away, outside of the Amble Urban District. They are free to subscribers and a fee is charged to non-subscribers.

## 6.—LABORATORY WORK.

In cases of infectious disease, where necessary, preparations are examined at the laboratory of the County Council under the direction of the County Medical Officer of Health. The opportunity is afforded to all doctors practising in the district and is fully taken advantage of. No use has been made of the Schick and Dick tests in Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever respectively, or of artificial methods of immunisation against these diseases.

## 7.—SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

### ADMINISTRATION OF LOCAL AND GENERAL ADOPTIVE ACTS.

The following Acts have been adopted by the Council:

Private Street Works Act.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890 (Parts I and III.).

Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907.

No local Acts have been adopted.

### WORK OF SANITARY OFFICIALS.

The Report of the Sanitary Inspector is appended.

### REFUSE DISPOSAL AND SCAVENGING.

Again, as in the previous year, a number of ash-closets have been abolished and water-closets substituted for them.

The following table shows the progress made to the end of 1937:

			Water-closets.		Ash-closets.		Privies.
1914	...	...	351	...	440	...	47
1919	...	...	398	...	442	...	25
1924	...	...	437	...	420	...	22
1937	...	...	826	...	287	...	8

The excretal and dry refuse was removed by the Council's employees, twice a week, in a satisfactory manner.

### SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

There are no swimming baths or pools in the Urban area.

## ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

1. Regular inspection of the Council Houses did not show any infestation with bugs.
2. The method employed for freeing infested houses is by spraying with Taldecide.
3. Before tenants remove to Council houses an inspection is made of their belongings to ensure cleanliness.
4. The work of disinfection is carried out by the Local Authority.

## THE MILK SUPPLY.

The milk supply to the town was of good quality, and there was an ample supply.

The cowsheds have impervious floors, are well drained, lighted, and ventilated. They were kept clean and white-washed regularly. They were all supplied from the town mains with pure water.

There was no epidemic of Summer Diarrhœa among bottle-fed babies in 1937. Clean, well-cooled milk does not sour readily and so does not cause digestive fermentation in the infants. An additional reason for the absence of these epidemics is that many infants now attend the Infant Welfare Centre and dried milk (Ambrosia) is in greater demand and can be freshly prepared when required for each feed.

No case of infectious disease was traced to the milk supply.

## OTHER FOODS.

The general food supply of the town was excellent. The premises where food was prepared and sold were kept in good condition.

No prosecutions took place under the Food and Drugs Act.

There is one Bakehouse in the town. It is lined with white glazed tiles. It was clean and in a satisfactory condition at each inspection.



## SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

There are four slaughterhouses in Amble. They are kept clean and whitewashed. Each has a good supply of water laid on.

There is no Public Abattoir.

	1914	Jan., 1937.	Dec., 1937.
Registered ... ..	3	2	2
Licensed ... ..	—	2	2
Total	3	4	4

## WATER SUPPLY.

The Water Supply during 1937 was of the usual good quality and abundant in quantity. The supply was constant.

The analysis of the water, with the analyst's report, is as follows :—

	1913.	1909.
Total solid matter in solution dried at 212 degs. F. ... ..	2.450	2.296
Chlorine existing as chlorides ...	1.539	2.336
Ammonia ... ..	0.012	0.010
Albumenoid Ammonia ... ..	0.002	0.003
Nitrogen existing as nitrates ... ..	0.013	0.003
Oxygen absorbed in 15 mins. at 80 degs. F. ... ..	Not determined.	do.
Oxygen absorbed in 4 mins. at 80 degs. F. ... ..	0.114	0.012
Lead and other poisonous metals ...	None.	None.
Hardness before boiling ... ..	Not determined.	do.
Hardness after boiling ... ..	Not determined.	do.
Appearance in 2ft. tube ... ..	Brownish turbidity.	
Smell when heated to 100 degs. F. ...	None.	None.
Microscopical exam. of sediment.	Satisfactory	Satisfactory

“This water will be rather hard, though not to an objectionable extent. Organically it is fairly pure water and it is, in our opinion, suitable for drinking and general domestic use. The sample contained in suspension nearly a tenth of

a grain per gallon of iron hydroxide and it is chiefly, if not entirely, this to which the turbidity of the water is due.”

## BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF SAMPLE OF WATER RECEIVED ON FEBRUARY 20th, 1934, FROM AMBLE URBAN COUNCIL.

Organisms visible on agar after 48 hours incubation at 37 C. ... .. 4

Organisms visible on gelatine after 96 hours incubation at 21 C. ... .. 26

Cubic Centimetres of Water.

Acid and gas production in Lactose Bile Salt Broth after 48 hours incubation at 37 deg. C.	}	1	10	100
		Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

### REPORT.

This water, as judged by the sample received, is of a high degree of purity. The small number of organisms on agar and gelatine, and the absence of coliform organisms in quantities of 100 cubic centimetres, show that the water is quite safe for drinking and domestic use in its present condition.

The above Bacteriological Examination was made for the Council in February, 1934. (Analyst—Mr W. Gordon Carey, F.I.C.)

### RAG FLOCK ACTS, 1911 and 1928.

There are no premises in the district on which rag flock is manufactured, used, or sold.

### SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The water carriage of sewerage in the town discharges its sewage by a main outfall sewer into the harbour and by a small outfall sewer into the tidal gut. It was satisfactory throughout the year.

### LODGING-HOUSES.

There is no lodging house in Amble. It is five years since the old one was closed.

## SCHOOLS.

There are five Elementary Schools in the Urban District. All are in a sanitary condition, with an efficient supply of water. No school closure was necessary for infectious disease.

### 8.—PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

1.—Medical Officer of Health, part time, half salary from the County Council.

2.—Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor, whole time officer.

The Council felt that too much work was being thrown on their Surveyor, Mr Burton, and they decided to disassociate the offices of Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector. As a result Mr Davies was appointed whole time Sanitary Inspector in November, 1936. He makes his first full year report for 1937.

### 9.—HOUSING.

Amble depends for its prosperity on the adjacent collieries of Broomhill and Hauxley, and some miners are employed at Shilbottle Colliery. They have worked steadily throughout the year. Wages are still small, unfortunately, and trade in the town, as a result, is far from brisk.

Building was brisk in Amble during the year and 13 new houses were finished and occupied by owner-tenants.

Thirty-six were built by the Council to accommodate families which in time would be deposed owing to slum clearance.

### 10.—PORT SANITATION.

The vessels which arrived in Warkworth Harbour were in ballast as usual. There are no imports to Amble, and the only export is coal.

The tonnage of the vessels entering Warkworth Harbour during the five years ending 31st December, 1937, is as under :

1933	...	...	182,305 tons.
1934	...	...	181,863 tons.
1935	...	...	167,792 tons.
1936	...	...	170,301 tons.
1937	...	...	155,475 tons.





5. Infected quarters are disinfected by formalin vapour. Bedding and clothing are disinfected by a portable steam disinfectant (Newman).
6. There are no baths for the cleansing of persons.
7. There is no ambulance for cases of infectious disease. Cases of Smallpox are removed to the Isolation Hospital on a covered stretcher on wheels.
8. There is no special clinic for the detection of or treatment of Venereal Disease among sailors.

Booklets are distributed to the ships giving information as to days and hours of attendance at the V.D. Clinic Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

9. No arrangements are made for the bacteriological examination of rats.
10. No other arrangements are made for other bacteriological examinations beyond the usual arrangements in the town for the examination of swabs, etc., at the Northumberland County Council Bacteriological Laboratory at Newburn, Northumberland.

TABLE C.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS LANDED FROM VESSELS.

Disease.	No. of Cases during 1937.	Average No. of Cases for last five years.
Smallpox.	Nil.	Nil.

TABLE D.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS OCCURRING ON VESSELS DURING THE VOYAGE BUT DISPOSED OF PRIOR TO ARRIVAL.

Nil.

## V.—MEASURES AGAINST RODENTS.

1. No steps were taken for the detection of rodent plague :
  - (a) In ships in the port.
  - (b) On quays, wharves, warehouses, etc., in the vicinity of the port.

None of the shipping was from plague infected or suspected ports.

2. No measures were taken to prevent the passage of rats between ships and the shore.
3. Methods of deratisation of :

(a) SHIPS.—Ships at Warkworth Harbour are as a rule very free from rats, due to the cargo being coal.

(b) PREMISES IN THE VICINITY OF DOCKS OR QUAYS.—The usual poison baits for rats were laid in the vicinity of the docks and throughout the town. The bodies of those found were not examined macroscopically, microscopically, or bacteriologically for disease.

4. Rat-proofing :
  - (a) The docks, wharves, warehouses, etc., are not rat-proof.
  - (b) No action was taken in 1937 to extend rat-proofing
    - (i) in ships ;
    - (ii) on shore.

## VI.—HYGIENE OF CREWS' SPACES.

Nationality of Vessel.	No. Inspected during 1937.	Dirt. Vermin, etc.
British ... ..	24	One vessel disinfested for vermin. (bugs).
Other Nations ...	9	

The quarters of the crews have been found to be satisfactory on inspection.



## VII.—FOOD INSPECTION.

1. Action taken under the Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations, 1925, the Public Health (Imported Milk) Regulations, 1926, and the Public Health (Preservatives, etc., in Food) Regulations, 1925 to 1927.—No action was taken in 1937 under the above Regulations.
2. Shellfish.—There is no shellfish bed or laying within the jurisdiction of the P.S.A. There is a mussel bed up the river in tidal water above the shipyard. It is not liable to pollution.
3. No samples of food from shipping were examined either by a bacteriologist or an analyst.

### II.—FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

During the year 1937, 5 young children were examined—5 males. None was rejected.

The factories and workshops were kept in a satisfactory condition. No written notice was served and no prosecutions were instituted. No nuisance required abatement and there were no offences under the Factories and Workshops Act. There are no workplaces and no outworkers.

Again I take this opportunity, Gentlemen, to thank you for the consideration and courtesy you have shown me throughout the year.

My thanks are also due to Mr Burton, your Surveyor, and to Mr Davies, your Inspector of Nuisances, for the valuable help they have always so willingly afforded me.

I am, GENTLEMEN,

Your Obedient Servant,

**JAMES ANDERSON LOUGHRIDGE,**

Medical Officer of Health.

THE ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
SANITARY INSPECTOR OF AMBLE  
For the Year 1937.

To Dr. J. A. Loughridge, M.B., Ch.B.

DEAR SIR,

I have the honour to submit my annual report on the various services administered by the Health Department of the Urban District.

PUBLIC CLEANSING SERVICE.

The cleansing service which is of vital necessity to the community, and one of the first and primary services from which Public Health originated: it is from the scavenging and street cleansing where all primitive sanitation begins.

This department has to be conducted on business lines. The collection of house refuse having to be systematic, regular, and on the same day of each week in the various streets of the town.

During the year we turned over to mechanical transport, doing away with three open box carts and horses, and replacing with one seven cubic yard Karrier Bantam Motor Refuse Collector. This was a big advance on the previous antiquated methods of collection, also being ideal from a hygienic standpoint. The vehicle being a low loader and covered, we have now no complaints of filth and paper from privy ashpits blowing about the streets and lanes—entirely opposed to the principles we advocate.

There are still quite a number of unsatisfactory receptacles in use for the storage of house refuse in the town. In the case where the galvanised sanitary bin is in use, the loaders report where some are defective, and notice is immediately sent requiring satisfactory receptacles. The same care should be taken with the storage of refuse as with our foodstuffs in the pantry of the home. It cannot be too widely known that only dry

refuse should be placed in the bin, which would then be free from objectionable odours, last longer and compare with the flour bin being equally useful in its purpose.

It is satisfactory to report that 99% of the ashbins and privy middens are emptied twice weekly.

The number and nature of the conveniences in the Urban District is as hereunder :—

Water Closets	...	...	826
Ash Closets	...	...	287
Privies	...	...	8

The large number of ash closets adds greatly to our costs of collection by the time taken to shovel out; and tremendous saving on cleansing costs will be obtained when we can convert to the water carriage system upon improving the water supply to the Urban Area at the completion of the works at present in progress at our water undertaking.

Nett Cost of Collection	...	...	£759	0	0
Cost per bin and privy emptied	...			7	2.005

The cost of purchasing Motor Refuse Collector valued £340 has been deducted and depreciation of same allowed over seven years.

The ash content is very high due to this being a Colliery Town, and inferior coal being supplied to the miners. This adds to the cost of collection due to the weight and quantity of refuse produced. The cost of collection for these mining towns is greater in proportion to size than the cities of Liverpool, Manchester, Newcastle, and other industrial centres where a 70% once weekly collection is sufficient against our 99% twice weekly collection, due to less ash being produced in the domestic grate in these big industrial communities.

## DISPOSAL OF REFUSE.

All our refuse is tipped on controlled lines at the Links Quarry. This is fast becoming filled and in a short period we will have to find an alternative site for the disposal of our refuse. The layers of refuse are consolidated and boxes and cartons broken down flat.



The various methods of disposal are as follows :—

1. Tipping of which we practice 100%.
2. Barging to Sea.
3. Incineration.

Tipping or filling up low lying land is the cheapest method of disposal, and highly suited to this district where there is much available land for filling up.

The length of haul from our most distant point is 1.038 miles.

### GULLEY EMPTYING.

All the street gulleys are regularly cleansed and the debris from their catch pits removed by the pail and scoop method together with horse and cart. 372 gulleys have been cleansed in the year. The cost per gulley was 2d.

### GARAGE STABLES.

The stables have been altered and converted into a garage, etc., to accommodate the refuse collector. This has been equipped with tools and heating so that minor repairs can be effected when required.

### STREET CLEANSING.

Two men are now employed on the street sweeping as against one in previous years. I have pleasure in saying that the streets have been kept in a clean condition during the year. The total mileage of streets and lanes in our area is 5.08 miles. All streets and lanes are swept twice weekly, and main thoroughfares whenever litter is apparent. The nett cost was £255 8s 6d and the cost per 10,000 square yards of streets swept 2s 9d. We purchased a new street orderly barrow with pneumatic tyres, and divided the town into two beats. It would be beneficial if we could have more litter bins at bus stops and vulnerable points, also litter baskets or bins on the links where visitors deposit litter in the summer months.

### HOUSING ACT, 1935.

Little can at present be done in the Urban Area to abate the overcrowding in a serious manner. All the houses being built

by private enterprise are of the semi-detached type for owner occupiers and not suited for housing the working classes. Building for this purpose by our Council has been shelved for three months owing to the need for economy of water and to see if the supply can be improved. Inspections are regularly made for the purpose of checking if the permitted number is marked in the rent books, and to prevent overcrowding after the appointed day.

## HOUSING.

Forty-nine new houses have been erected, and of these 13 have been occupied. Thirty-six of the houses were erected by the Council for slum clearance and are awaiting the tenants from the clearance order after final permission to demolish takes effect. These comprise of 8 non-parlour type houses with two bed-rooms, and 28—3 bedroom type. Thirteen were erected by private enterprise and are three bedroom type, parlour and bathroom. Seventeen houses were confirmed for demolition. Two houses were converted into one and also reconditioned together with one house which has to be reconditioned and placed in a sanitary condition. Two cottages were closed on an undertaking being given to cease to use for human habitation.

Seventy-four houses were inspected during the year and defects of 21 were remedied under the Housing Acts and 11 under the Public Health Acts.

## SEWERS.

The majority of new houses erected during the year were in close proximity to existing sewers. A new sewer had to be undertaken for our Council Estate of 36 houses and connection was made in back Edwin Street, and same carried along Albert Street and up South Avenue to the Westfield Estate.

No flooding from high tides or heavy rainfalls has been experienced, and the sewers have been just sufficient to carry off the waste water and rainfall.

## DISINFECTION.

Two houses have been disinfected during the year after cases of Tuberculosis and one hut at the Newcastle-Upon-Tyne Lord Mayor's Holiday Camp after Scarlet Fever.

## SHIPPING.

### INWARDS.

Foreign.	Number.	Tonnage.
Steamers ... ..	92	75,814
Motor ... ..	—	—
Sailing ... ..	—	—
Fishing ... ..	—	—
Total Foreign ...	92	75,814
Coastwise.		
Steamers ... ..	177	86,153
Motor ... ..	28	3,787
Sailing ... ..	2	72
Total Coastwise	207	90,012
	92	75,814
Total Foreign and Coastwise ...	299	165,826

Thirty-three vessels were inspected of which six were British from home ports, eighteen British vessels from foreign ports, six foreign from British ports and three foreign vessels from home ports.

Sixty-four declaration of Health forms were collected and there were no cases of infectious disease on any of the vessels entering our port.

There are fixed mooring stations both inside and outside the loading berth in case of infectious disease. One vessel was sprayed with insecticide for bugs. One notice was sent to owners to abate nuisance from water entering crew's



quarters and fire smoking, and same has been remedied. Otherwise the quarters of the crews was generally satisfactory.

### COWSHEDS AND DAIRIES.

The number of registered persons in the district is as undermentioned :—

Wholesale Purveyors of Milk ... ..	4
Retail Purveyors of Milk ... ..	10
Cowkeepers and Dairymen ... ..	7
Number of cows kept ... ..	132

One cowshed and dairy was altered—new cement floors channels additional ventilation provided, and yard concreted at one farm in district. This farm was afterwards licensed by the County Council for the production of accredited milk. One dairy in the town was altered and additional bottle washing appliances installed together with steam steriliser and refrigerator.

### FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

The number of factories in the town is 14 and the number of workshops 12.

A sink with trapped waste has been provided in one workshop and W.C. repaired, and dust bins provided in one factory.

### SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

The number of slaughter houses in the district is the same as last year, viz., two registered and two licensed.

Regular inspections are made during the hours of slaughtering and 49 stones 8 lbs. of diseased meat and 28 rabbits surrendered during the year.

### WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply was constant and sufficient for the needs of both domestic and industrial purposes during the year. There is urgent need of additional water. The Council are at present, through their Contractors, sinking a borehole with this object in view—near their Morwick Service Reservoir.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

**FRED J. DAVIES,**

**Sanitary Inspector.**

# SUMMARY OF SANITARY WORK CARRIED OUT DURING 1937.

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Roofs repaired	19
Walls repaired	65
Floor repaired	9
Ceilings	17
Windows	10
Fireplaces	3
Cooking Ranges	3
Coppers	5
Sinks (Provision of)	20
Interior Water Supplies provided	21
Rain Water Pipes	3
Eaves guttering	15
Food stores	11
Sash cords	15
Doors	14
Woodwork	2
Chimney stacks	7
Yards and Passages	18
Dampness abated	34
Sink Waste Pipes	1
Drains cleared	2
Water Closets (Cleared)	2
Water Closets repaired	6
Water Closets cleansed	3
New Cisterns	1
Dustbins new provided	7
Miscellaneous Offensive Accum.	1
Stables and Stable Yards	1
Workshops and Factories	1
Privy repaired	1
New yard gulleys	13
New Drains	12

# Sheet No. 1. Sanitary Inspector's Annual Report: Year ending December 31st, 1937

District AMBLE URBAN. Population, 4210. Inspector: FRED J. DAVIES.	Number of Inspections during year	Number of Defects or Con- traventions of Bye-laws	Number remedied after letter or interview	Number of INFORMAL Notices served.	Defects remedied thereafter	Number of STATUTORY Notices served.	Defects remedied thereafter	In progress or being dealt with
	1	2	5	6	7	8	9	10
Structural defects( Summary of Sheet II.) .....	74	540		49	201	12	8	331
<b>Housing</b> —Defective Food Store .....	112	21		11	11	5		10
Dampness .....	112	81			34	9		50
Overcrowding .....	200	70						
Nuisances .....	40	19		19	11			8
<b>Water Supply</b> —Insufficient .....								
Unsatisfactory .....								
<b>Drainage</b> Insufficient .....		15		9	9	1	6	
Defective .....		5		5	5			
<b>Sanitary Conveniences</b> —								
Insufficient .....								
Defective .....								
Shops, Food-stores, &c. ....	220		2					
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops .....	95							
Slaughter Houses .....	264							
Tents, Vans, &c. ....	13							
Offensive Trades .....								
Workshops and Workplaces .....	98							
Keeping of Animals .....								
Insanitary Ashpits and Receptacles .....	17	10		7	7			3
Ashpits improperly used .....	2							
Offensive accumulations .....	3	1		1	1			
Smoke Nuisances .....	40							
Petrol Stores .....								
<b>TOTAL</b> .....	1290	762	2	101	279	27	14	402



# AMBLE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

## Housing (Consolidated) Regulations, 1925

TABULAR STATEMENT as required by Article 31, for Year 1937.

**HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR:—**

	With State assistance.	Unaided.	Total.
(a) By Local Authority . . . . .	36	.	36
(b) By other Bodies or Persons ..		13	13

**1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR:**

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) . . . . .	74		
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose . . . . .	—		
(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulation, 1925 . . . . .	74		
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose . . . . .	—		
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation . . . . .	4		
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation . . . . .	49		

**2.—REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES:**

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by Local Authority or its officers . . . . .	41		
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**3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS:**

**A.—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.**

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which "notices" were served requiring repairs . . . . .	49		
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—			
(a) By owners . . . . . 21			
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners . . . . . Nil	21		

**B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts.**

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied . . . . .	11		
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—			
(a) By owners . . . . . 11			
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners . . . . . Nil	11		

**C.—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of Housing Act, 1936.**

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made . . . . .	Nil		
(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders . . . . .	Nil		

**D.—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.**

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made . . . . .	Nil		
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit . . . . .	Nil		

**4. NUMBER OF HOUSES PERMANENTLY DISCONTINUED AS DWELLINGS AND NOT INCLUDED ABOVE . . . . . 2**

(Signed) **FRED. J. DAVIES,**  
Inspector.

Sheet 3.

SUMMARY OF WORK EFFECTED.

District, AMBLE (Urban). Year 1937. Inspector: FRED J. DAVIES.	After Letter or interview	After Informal Notice	After statutory Notice	TOTAL
<b>Sanitary Conveniences—</b>				
Privies abolished .....				
Privies repaired .....				
Privy ashpits abolished .....	4			4
Privy ashpits roofed or repaired .....		5		5
Pail-closets abolished .....				
Water-closets provided .....	4			4
Water-closets repaired .....		6		6
Sanitary bins provided .....				
Sanitary bins renewed .....		7		7
<b>Drainage :—</b>				
New drains constructed .....		11		11
Drains repaired or reconstructed .....		2		2
Additional gullies provided .....		13		13
Old gullies replaced .....		1		1
Scullery sinks provided .....		20		20
Scullery waste-pipes repaired .....		1		1
Scullery waste-pipes trapped .....		1		1
Yards repaired or reconstructed .....		18		18

**Water Supply :—**

Sources closed or discontinued—Nil.

No. of houses affected—Nil.

New service provided—Nil.

No. of houses affected—Nil.

**Rivers Pollution.**

Cases detected—Nil.

Remedied—Nil.

S.D. Works provided—Nil.

**FOOD INSPECTION.**

**District: AMBLE. Inspector: FRED J. DAVIES. Year 1937.**

UNSOUND FOOD.	Surrendered.	Seized.	Legal Proceedings
1. Beef (Home-killed), stones	40 st. 10 lb.	Nil.	Nil.
2. Beef (imported) ,		„	„
3. Mutton (Home-killed) „		„	„
4. Mutton (Imported) „		„	„
5. Pork „	8 st. 8 lb.	„	„
6 Game Lbs.	28 rabbits	„	„
7. Poultry „	Nil.	„	„
8. Fish „	„	„	„
9. Fruit Lbs. or Cases	„	„	„
10. Canned Goods Tins or Cases		„	„
11. Bacon Lbs.	„	„	„
12. Cheese „	„	„	„
13 Butter „	„	„	„
14. Lard „	„	„	„
15. Other Foods :			

**MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER, 1926.**

**Section 6 (1) and (4).**

Number of Cowkeepers (registered) in district ... ..	7
Approximate number of cows kept ... ..	132







